

The very first bill that House Republicans passed was a break for tax cheats that also benefited large corporations and billionaires while adding \$114 billion to the deficit.

Last time Republicans controlled the House, they enacted a \$2 trillion tax cut for the 1 percent and big corporations. All the while, House Democrats continue to work to hold large corporations accountable and ensure they are paying their fair share.

We are working to strengthen the middle class by creating good-paying jobs, lowering middle-class taxes, and protecting Social Security and Medicare because we understand that a strong middle class is essential to a strong economy, to a strong democracy, and to a strong America.

#### HONORING CHIEF LOU DEKMAR ON HIS RETIREMENT

(Mr. FERGUSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend, Chief Lou Dekmar, from LaGrange, Georgia, on his well-deserved retirement.

For 50 years, Chief Dekmar has protected and defended our communities as a law enforcement officer. He has long been a hero in the community, protecting the lives of citizens as well as fellow officers.

Serving nearly 30 years as police chief in LaGrange, Georgia, Chief Dekmar's unwavering dedication to ensuring that the folks of Troup County stayed safe and secure was second to none.

Chief Dekmar embodies the true heart of a leader and his work to heal the community and establish racial reconciliation in the city were just a few of the many accomplishments he had throughout his decorated career.

Mr. Speaker, I thank him for his unbelievable devotion to serving the people of Georgia and congratulate him on a well-earned retirement.

#### KILLING IN MEMPHIS

(Mr. COHEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I am the Congressman who represents the great city of Memphis.

Right now much of the national media is looking at Memphis, as there was an awful killing of a 29-year-old African-American man by five police officers within the last few weeks. The five police officers have been fired by the police department for violating their oath. The DA will announce charges in a few hours.

It could be a situation where people want to exercise their First Amendment rights to protest the actions of the police department, and people should, but they should be peaceful and calm.

We have a new DA, we have a new U.S. Attorney, and we have a new police director. They are the right people at the right time to bring about reform and to deal with this case to see that justice is rendered.

I grieve for the life of Tyre Nichols whose life should not have been extinguished. He was an outstanding young man, and it is extremely sad that he was killed.

I pray for my city.

#### NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK

(Mr. FLOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate National School Choice Week.

School choice is about giving families the freedom to choose the best education possible for their children, regardless of their learning style or home address or financial situation.

Every parent in America wants to give their child the best education possible, and Nebraska has great options: public, private, homeschools. Not everyone has the means to access their option of choice.

I believe we should fund the students, not the systems. When funding for education follows students to the school of their choice, families win. Nebraska is one of only two States in the Nation that has not passed a school choice program.

I am excited about these opportunities and look forward to giving parents the choice.

#### CENSORSHIP OF CONSERVATIVE VOICES

(Mr. GOOD of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my concerns with the ongoing censorship of conservative voices.

We are all aware of the leftist bias and discrimination on social media. The recent Twitter files tell a sinister tale of censorship and discrimination against conservatives and Republicans across the country. But the campaign of censorship and discrimination by the left also extends to satellite and cable TV.

The Nation's largest satellite TV provider, DIRECTV, has threatened another conservative-leaning cable news network. First, it was OAN a year ago, and now DIRECTV has threatened to deplatform Newsmax, the fourth largest cable news network.

Competition is the heart of the American economy, but the mainstream media is an anti-American institution that has no regard for the First Amendment rights of conservatives or protecting a platform for all viewpoints.

DIRECTV'S actions are a clear effort to discriminate against conservative voices.

DIRECTV pays leftist outlets to carry their content on their satellite network, but conservative outlets are not treated the same.

Many liberal channels, with a fraction of Newsmax's audience, receive payment from DIRECTV. This bias is blatant and egregious, and Congress should look into this censorship and address the discrimination against conservative voices.

#### RECOGNIZING ALAN LOVING

(Mr. GUEST asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and to encourage my longtime friend, Alan Loving. Alan serves as pastor for students and families at First Baptist Church of Madison.

Alan has dedicated his life as a minister of the Gospel and has impacted countless lives for eternity during his many years of service as a youth minister.

Recently, Alan suffered a life-changing accident that has left him paralyzed from the waist down. We praise God for Alan's continued recovery and rehabilitation.

God's word tells us in Proverbs, "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another."

Throughout this journey, Alan and his family have been an inspiration to me and so many others throughout our community. We have been sharpened by his strength and his faithfulness.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to let Alan know that Mississippi loves him and his family. We are praying for him; his wife, Courtney; his daughters, Mary Addison and Anna Claire. We are inspired by his determination and faith.

#### CONCERNS AT OUR SOUTHERN BORDER

(Mr. ROSE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, the Biden administration continues to fail the American people.

Just last month, Customs and Border Protection had 251,487 migrant encounters along the southern border, the highest number of encounters ever recorded in a single month. Despite our constant calls to get this crisis under control, it has only gotten worse. Either President Biden is trying and utterly failing, or worse, not trying at all.

Since President Biden has taken office, there have been more than 4.5 million migrant encounters at our southern border, and December marked the tenth straight month with more than 200,000 encounters, a trend that has never been recorded before. None of these statistics include the over 1.2 million known got-aways who have